

## DUBLIN/DARLINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

March 19, 2014

### Conowingo Visitor Center

**Members Present:** Jane Howe, Secretary  
Tom Friedel  
David Hickman  
Lilma Huntley  
Russell Kovach  
Joni Nugent  
Donald Thomas  
Alan Thompson  
Shirley Thompson

**Guests:** David Anderson  
Billy Boniface  
Morita Bruce  
Mary Beth Bushall  
Lt. Matthew Kail  
Corp. Rich Miller  
Bob Riley  
Jeanette Sauers  
John Sauers  
Chad Shrodes  
Debbie Sullivan

Jane Howe called the meeting to order at 7:03pm. She explained that Rich Norling is not feeling well.

**Review of Minutes:** There were two corrections to the draft of the February minutes. Joni Nugent made a motion to accept the February 19, 2014 minutes as corrected. Russell Kovach seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Sheriff's Representative:** Corp. Rich Miller distributed the Dublin/Darlington Community Crime Report for the 2/18/14 to 3/18/14 time frame. He noted that the increase in alarms were weather related. Part 1 burglaries and theft were up, but people are better at locking up their property to help prevent daytime theft. Regarding prior complaints about truck traffic on local roads, there was a focus on Route 161 at Route 1 by the CVU (Commercial Vehicle Unit). This resulted in 29 level 2 inspections on trucks and 22 stops on cars. 32 citations were issued for over \$3,000 in fines. Most local truckers are compliant. Cooperation between the HCSO and MSP will continue. In the discussion that followed, questions were fielded about Rural Route Enforcement; Hatem Bridge as it impacts traffic over Conowingo Dam; restriction of truck width; who controls legislation over these issues; pedestrian issues on local roads.

**County Councilman Chad Shrodes:** Chad gave an update on a constituent issue regarding speeding during school hours in the vicinity of the local elementary schools and the need for blinking lights above the school signs. Chad has submitted a request for these plus "smart" trailers when the weather gets better.

Construction on the Darlington Park multi use field will begin this summer.

A bill to reduce the size of septic reserves from 20,000 square feet to 10,000 square feet will have a public hearing in a few weeks. The bill has the support of the Health Department and seeks to promote BAT (Best Available Technology). He said it will not impact the Master Land Use Plan, but theoretically could reduce future lot size in new subdivisions. He suggested that people should refer to Plan Maryland and the "tier" program to research land use within any given tier.

**Guest Speaker:** Morita Bruce, President of Friends of Harford, explained that the organization is all volunteer and works for the benefit of fellow citizens as a voice for responsible land use. Information can be found at [www.friendsofharford.com](http://www.friendsofharford.com). She noted what the organization can and cannot do. The majority of their inquiries come in through the website. They can help mitigate situations, improve rights and quality of life and are complaint driven. For example, right now there is nothing in the zoning code about quality of life issues as it applies to light, noise or dust. They are working on a bill to define the parameters of excess outdoor lighting. She distributed "A Citizen's Guide to the Harford County Property Development Process" and went over it

point by point. The Master Land Use Plan includes Land Use Element Plans. It also contains Transportation, Natural Resources, Historic, Water & Sewer, and other component parts. She cautioned everyone to stay alert for changes to the zoning code via comprehensive zoning and piecemeal zoning. Citizens can sign up for FOH alerts on the website for notices of upcoming Community Input Meetings. She also had a signup sheet for membership. She then gave a brief explanation of Permitted Use Tables. Go to <http://www.harfordcountymd.gov/planningzoning> for up to date information. She mentioned that by the time a hearing on a property goes before a DAC (Development Advisory Council) hearing, it is too late to affect change.

**County Council President Billy Boniface:** Billy gave an update on the Stun Gun Bill and construction at Palmer State Park, which is slow moving, but moving nonetheless.

**Good of the Council:** Russell Kovach announced that the Darlington Library has a Facebook page and wants to be “liked”.

Jane Howe announced that the 21034 E-News also has a Facebook page and would like to be “liked.” Copies of the March 21034 Community E-News were made available.

**Adjournment:** Shirley Thompson made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Joni Nugent. The meeting adjourned at 9:00PM.

**Next Meeting:**

**TOWN**

**MEETING – CANDIDATES’ FORUM – APRIL 25, 2014, 6:30PM at DVFC pending approval**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane Howe